

**Committee Notes – Joint Meeting**  
**Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID**  
**January 10, 2013**

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Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Dan Chismire, Carol Massie. Not Present: Don Mushin, and Thaddeus Smith. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Fabio Conti, Elizabeth McDonald, Katie Seymour. Not Present: Anthony Bell, John Lupo, and Roxanna Sassanian. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Captain Beatrice Girmala, LAPD; Not Present, LASD; Not Present, Council District 13. Staff: Kerry Morrison, Sarah Besley, and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Aaron Epstein, Artisan's Patio; Howard Ferguson, Hollywood Frontier.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairs John Tronson and Fred Rosenthal at 10:08 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: Aaron Epstein explained to the committee that he has been having issues with homeless individuals sleeping on his property during the evening hours. Epstein would like to see the Security hours extended in order to move individuals from his property who are sleeping there in the evening. Carol Massie mentioned that McDonald's had a similar problem and had hired Andrews on a private basis to patrol their store at night. Captain Girmala also said that she could ask her "TAB" LAPD Unit to go by and check it out as the officers target aggressive begging and are out as early as 4 a.m. John Tronson thanked Epstein for his comments and said that the idea of extending security deployment hours would indeed be discussed later in the agenda.
- III. Meeting Notes: The committee approved the meeting notes from their December 13, 2012 meeting.
- IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Andrews International has finished their sixth year patrolling the two BIDs. During this year the Andrews team had attended 154 various meetings and continued to work with outreach providers in the area. The team's efforts have led to continued success in community relationship building. Seyler reported that since 2007 arrests have decreased, which has seemed to be in line with the LAPD's report of lower crime in the area. However, due to Andrews' effectiveness BID calls for service have dramatically increased, leaving officers to respond to numerous stakeholders. John Tronson suggested the staff put together a subcommittee of owners to reach out to those stakeholders who may be over-utilizing Andrews services, and encourage them to hire their own private security for their establishments.

2. Deployment Plan/Unarmed Security Patrol - Pilot Program: Seyler informed the committee that he and Joe Salazar have been working with the deployment schedule to continue to provide more visibility to the BIDs. As part of this approach, the Hollywood Entertainment District Unarmed Patrol program has also been in development. Seyler said that he had interviewed candidates for the positions and has hired six individuals to serve as officers for the trial program. The officers are currently in training and Seyler hopes to have the new unarmed guards out by the end of this month.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Girmala thanked Steve Seyler and Andrews for consistently attending the area's Crime Control Meetings. The Captain reported that Hollywood Division had ended the year ranked #9 out of the 21 divisions in Los Angeles. Captain Girmala also mentioned that it was a very successful year in the area of Part I crime reduction. Additionally, she has noticed the increased visibility of BID Security, and is currently trying to obtain the LAPD "E-platoon" (Equestrian) to deploy during the daytime hours. Captain Girmala also said that New Year's Eve was very good. LAPD made 60 arrests that

night, and utilized the “slammer van” to hold individuals. Additionally, the Las Palmas private security pilot project was very successful.

C. Report from LA Sheriff’s Department: Not Present. Captain Girmala said she would forward who the new Sheriff’s contact is for the area. Tronson suggested having the sheriffs only attend meetings once a quarter.

#### V. New Business

##### A. Continued Discussion Regarding Possible Nighttime Deployment Hours

1. Update on HPOA Board Meeting Discussion: Tronson briefed the committee on the HPOA board’s discussion last month, and said that the board is still analyzing the idea of having BID Patrol extend their hours. The board also raised the question as to why the BID officers could not first monitor the LAPD cameras at night. Captain Girmala said that the City Attorney’s office had some concerns with the idea and that she could discuss those off-line after the meeting. The HPOA Board is also considering whether or not they can take funds from outside the organization to help pay for additional BID officers during the evening hours. Lastly, the idea was discussed as to whether LAPD officers could be hired to help increase police presence at night. Tronson reported that the board is considering all of these options, but will not make an immediate decision until all have been thoroughly researched. Seyler said that Andrews International will accommodate whatever schedule the Board and Committee desire, however, if officers are required to be out at night it may dissipate the daytime deployment due to the BID’s budget constraints. Tronson asked Seyler to please bring a detailed deployment plan to the next meeting so the committee could see what kind of impact a change in the deployment schedule may have on daytime manpower. Sarah MacPherson also suggested the board discuss the matter with their attorney to see if Andrews would need to take on additional insurance. Captain Girmala said the issue was solvable, and she believes having BID out in an “observe and report” role would be ideal. The Captain also committed to giving the officers an LAPD radio so they could report observed incidents immediately to the officers in the field. Also, the Captain said she could provide the BID with the ideal hours when they should be deployed. Morrison said she was concerned with keeping the deployment egalitarian to service the entire Zone One in district, not just “hot spots.” Bill Farrar suggested having the area broken up into three sections where each night the BID officers would only patrol one section. Tronson recommended that the BID explore the idea further before possibly conducting an 8-12 week experiment.

##### B. Security RFP 2012

1. Contract Negotiation Update: Mariani announced that the Andrews contract is the final stages of negotiations. He is trying to receive a copy of the final version from Andrews for the HPOA meeting for the board to vote on.

#### VI. Old Business

##### A. Homeless Outreach Update:

1. LAHSA 2013 Homeless Count: Morrison reminded all committee members who were interested to please sign up for the LAHSA homeless count this month. The count will take place on January 31, from around 9 p.m. -1 a.m.

2. Homeless Bill of Rights: Morrison briefed the board on a newly introduced Assembly Bill (AB 5) which was being proposed. The bill, which is called the ‘Homeless Bill of Rights,’ would severely limit what both law enforcement and BID Security could do when trying to remove individuals from private property. Additionally, “the bill would give legal protection to people engaging in life-sustaining activities on

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public property. The bill specifically mentions sleeping, congregating, panhandling, urinating, etcetera.” Morrison said the issue is being closely monitored by the BID Consortium and California Downtown Association. Morrison encouraged the committee to contact the Assembly Speaker to share their thoughts on the bill.

**B. Community Impact Team**

1. Sidewalk Issues: Mariani said there was no news to report at the moment.

C. Valet Parking Ordinance: Mariani reported that the ordinance had been approved by City Council and is currently with the Police Commission who will be finalizing the regulations. Hollywood is still scheduled to be one of the first areas where it should go into effect.

**D. BID Surveillance Cameras**

1. Whitley Camera Update: Mariani thanked John Tronson again for his help in contacting the Whitley property owner. The camera had been installed after the New Year and the repeater is scheduled to be installed next week.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 14 at 10 a.m. in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chairs John Tronson and Fred Rosenthal at 11:25 a.m.